



4th Tank Battalion Commander's

Guidance on Sexual Assault

Prevention and Response Program



Sexual assault has no place in our Marine Corps. It goes against everything we as Marines stand for and fight against. It is counter to our ethos and character. Sexual assault is a crime.

Sexual assault is defined as an intentional sexual contact, characterized by use of force, physical threat of force or abuse of authority or when the victim does not or cannot consent. "Consent" shall not be deemed or construed to mean the failure by the victim to offer physical resistance. Consent is not given when a person uses force, threat of force, coercion or when a victim is asleep, incapacitated, or unconscious. Sexual assault includes rape, nonconsensual sodomy, indecent assault, or attempts to commit these acts. Sexual assault can occur without regard to gender or spousal relationship or age of victim.

If assaulted, report it immediately to your Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), healthcare provider, chaplain, and/or a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC). All have confidentiality and can help you with a restricted or an unrestricted report. For more information on the right of sexual assault victims and what you can do, go to www.usmc-mccs.org/sapro and click on resources.

Sexual assault is real and it happens every day to our brothers and sisters. To fight sexual assault as an institution we need to acknowledge it exists, arm ourselves with information and report it if or when it happens. Reporting is not only the victim's responsibility. If you know of a sexual assault report it!

Semper Fidelis,

Brian D. Kelly
LtCol, USMC
Commanding Officer